Feed Implications of Aflatoxin
August 21, 2012 Webinar

**Question: What is the effect of Aflatoxin on livestock?**
Elevated concentrations for long time periods will damage the liver

**Question: What are safe levels for feeding sheep—gestating?**
FDA recommendations are 100 ppb

**Question: Will nitrates leach out of stalks with fall rainfall after grain harvest?**
No they will not.

**Question: Can we add Sodium Bentonite to hog rations with Aflatoxin of 200+ ppb?**
Bentonite can be added as a flow agent but has limited values to inactivate aflatoxin.

**Question: When feeding grain that has aflatoxin in it, will the aflatoxin level build in the animal over time? Will the level drop quickly if grain with aflatoxin is no longer fed?**
Aflatoxin will not build up over time but the damage they cause to the liver can become cumulative. The damage will heal in the liver if not extensive.

**Question: Is there an antidote for initial symptoms of nitrates in breeding cattle?**
The antidote for nitrate toxicosis is methylene blue and has to be given by a licensed veterinarian.

**Question: How extension office and has. How does county extension office staff handle a corn sample for Aflatoxin brought in by a farmer? Where do we direct him/her where to go? What is the charge for the Vet Diagnostic lab?**
Extension offices can submit samples to the diagnostic lab. The charge is based on what analysis is requested.

**Question: What, if any, long term implications are there for non-gestating breeding livestock (bulls, boars, rams, etc.) if being fed aflatoxin affected corn during their development stages?**
The implications depend on the dose and time being fed.